

REMARKS

By the foregoing Amendment, Claims 1, 5, 6 and 10 have been amended.

Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, on the grounds of indefiniteness. The Examiner indicated it was unclear in Claims 1 and 6 if the weight percentages are based on the total weight of the dried and baked coating or on the total weight of the composition including a solvent carrier used to form the coating. Claims 1 and 6 do not recite a solvent carrier, and have been amended to clarify that the weight percentages are based on the total weight of the composition, consistent with the preamble, and not on the baked and dried coating. It is therefore believed that the rejection of Claims 1-10 on the grounds of indefiniteness can be withdrawn.

Claims 1-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) on the grounds of obviousness from Sekhon in view of Lewis et al. The Examiner acknowledged that Sekhon does not teach a salt of inorganic constituents and a succinic acid or succinic acid and amine complex as recited in Claims 1 and 6. Lewis et al. was cited as disclosing a combination of ingredients to replace chromates in the coating of Sekhon. Claims 1 and 6 have been amended to recite "said salt of inorganic constituents having a particle size of 10 microns or less." As is pointed out in the specification, this limitation is necessary where coating thicknesses must be controlled to less than 0.0001 inch, as in the case of many fasteners. It is respectfully submitted that Sekhon and Lewis et al. do not teach, disclose or suggest a corrosion resistant composition for a fastener wherein the composition includes a salt of

inorganic constituents having a particle size of 10 microns or less, and that * Claims 1-10 are novel and inventive over Sekhon and Lewis et al., either taken individually or in combination. It is therefore respectfully submitted that the rejection of Claims 1-10 on the grounds of obviousness from Sekhon in view of Lewis et al. should be withdrawn.

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application should now be in condition for allowance, and an early favorable action in this regard is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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